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Congratulations Jill!



Shown after the announcement (left to right): Tom Meyer (new ALD for SSR), Jill, John Browne, and Bill Press
(Photo by Annette Archuleta)

Browne Makes Surprise Announcement Jill Trewhella Named Permanent B-Division Director

In a surprise announcement to Bioscience Division on Wednesday, Jan. 26, John Browne, LANL Director, said that he had decided to forego a national search for a new Director for Bioscience Division and he named Jill Trewhella, who has been acting Director since last October, B Division's permanent Director. In his remarks, Browne said that he is very proud and excited about what B-Division is doing and the direction it is heading. "Bioscience is at the beginning of a new era that is comparable to physics in the '30s....a time of great excitement and new discoveries. I want this Laboratory to be part of that." He continued his remarks by saying that a national search would take approximately a year, and would only delay the work that needs to be done now to enable B Division to respond to national initiatives that are focused on bioscience and health issues. "Also, when you are creating something like a new Division, you need a person who has the passion and can be a leader. Jill has those qualities. She is an outstanding scientist, and an outstanding and passionate leader who is dedicated to this division. And I'm not sure that we would find anyone with the same qualities that Jill brings. So, as of today, I am naming Jill the permanent Director for Bioscience Division. I feel very comfortable with this decision. I think it's the right decision for the Laboratory and for the Division." Jill was asked to make a few remarks and thanked John for his confidence and trust in her leadership, but pointed out that it was the innovation and creativity of B Division scientists that created the vision for the Division. "You've all done a lot and we've made a great beginning," she said addressing the B Division audience, "but there is still a lot of hard work ahead of us. I'm looking forward to working with all of you to confirm John's confidence in us."

➤ Contributed by Sandra Zink.

LDRD-DR Preproposals Due!

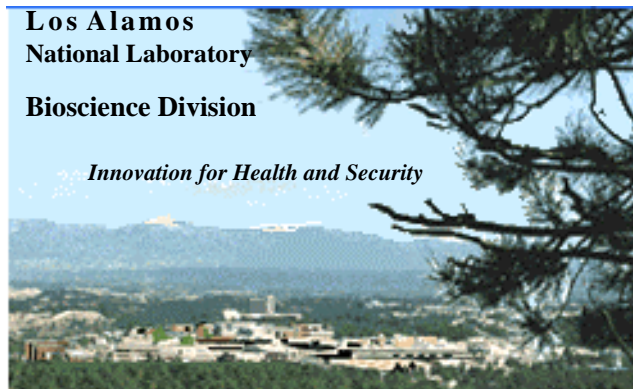
Gary Strniste sent out the call for LDRD-DR proposals, with summary pages due at the Division office Monday noon Jan. 31st. Each proposal idea will be assigned a mentor from the Science Leadership team to provide guidance in the pre-proposal development. First draft pre-proposals are due to the Division office February 10. PIs will be provided feedback by Feb. 11 to assist in preparing final pre-proposals for the STB submission deadline of Feb 14. The Resource Managers, Thrust Coordinator, Division Director and Deputy will decide which pre-proposals are sent forward with B Division endorsement. The deciders will not participate in the science of the LDRD DR, but will be available to give information and guidance to all. More detail is available in Gary Strniste's email (1/24/00, gfs@lanl.gov).

From Jill's Desk

Los Alamos
National Laboratory

Bioscience Division

Innovation for Health and Security



This week has been one of the more exciting weeks I have had at the Lab, and I thought I would take my space in the B Scene to make a few personal comments. I am very pleased to be your Division Director. I have had many congratulatory messages, and the occasional wry-humored “commiserations.” In the last 3 months I have learned a great deal about what it takes to run a large, complex organization filled with independent, talented, free spirits! I have learned enough to know that I have a great deal yet to learn. I have also learned that, for me, this challenge is as energizing and fun as doing science. In many ways it is a lot like a science experiment in the frontiers of “complex adaptive matter”. As our Division grows and develops, I will work hard to protect my “science time”, but I will equally enjoy working with you all to make this Division strong and successful; one that contributes in vital ways to the Laboratory and the nation. In announcing to you all his decision to appoint me as your Division Director, John made the comment that “Jill believes in you.” He is one hundred percent correct. That is what makes this job fun to do!

➤ *Jill*

Communications Team Report

The Communications Team is actively pursuing several activities. Following a visit to the Bradbury Science Museum, we were able to identify a computer in B Division that was scheduled for salvage. Thanks to **Tammie Johnson**, the computer has now been donated to the museum for upgrading the current system in use at the **Genome exhibit**. We are exploring with **Larry Deaven**, Director, Center for Human Genome Studies, how to develop an exhibit of Chromosome 16 that shows the location of genetically related diseases. This and other upgrades to the Genome exhibit are planned. We have received a number of very good candidates for our **Distinguished Speaker Series**. The lectures will take place in the Physics Auditorium every third Wednesday, beginning March 15th. Those contributing names selected for the series are now being contacted to invite their candidate. **Ternel Martinez** in Public Affairs has written the cover story on the Human Genome Project (HGP) that will show up in the March issue of

Reflections. He has also written a 21st Century Science piece on the HGP that soon will be released to the media. The purpose of the 21st Century Science piece is to promote great science at Los Alamos. Our science outreach activities are being led by **Min Park**, who has received Division approval to develop a **mini-biology series** for the UNM-Los Alamos campus. He will be soliciting your input for an appropriate curriculum.

We still need clippings and photos for our **Scrapbook**. Please give your input to myself or the Division office directly. Thanks!

➤ *Contributed by Sandra Zink, Team Leader*

Bucks

OBER Report

Completed DOE/OBER Field Work Proposals (a.k.a. 189's, 5120's, FWP's) will be due February 25th. The schedule is as follows:

- Feb. 10: Official call for proposals from the Science Program Office
- Feb. 25: Proposals due to Program Manager (Scott Cram). Please submit electronic copies via email attachment)
- March 2: LANL technical and budget review complete
- March 10: Document delivered to BUS-3 for printing
- April 1: Final submission to DOE

For more information and copies of the necessary forms go to:

<http://stb.lanl.gov/energy/er02budget/budget.html>

➤ *Contributed by Scott Cram and Ed Hildebrand*

NIH Report

The NIH web site created by Mary Ann Martinez works great. And from personal experience during the past 2 weeks, I can attest that Mary Ann herself is a fabulous resource for NIH hopefuls in the division. Check it out: http://telomere.lanl.gov/b_internal/NIH_help/

➤ *Babs Marrone*

Bravo

Kirk Rector, a new postdoc working with Brian Dyer in BS-2, has just been awarded the Frederick Reines postdoctoral fellowship in experimental sciences. Named after the former Los Alamos National Laboratory researcher who won the 1995 Nobel Prize in Physics, this fellowship provides the opportunity for recipients to pursue independent research of their own choice in experimental sciences. The awards go to outstanding experimentalists regardless of their field of study. Kirk is developing new vibrational imaging approaches for the study of molecular processes in living cells.

Breaking News

Senator Bingaman Visits B Division



Left to Right: Rex Crook (B Division Facility Coordinator), John Browne, and Senator Jeff Bingaman.

Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) visited Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) on Wednesday, January 19th, and briefly visited Bioscience Division after his general remarks to Laboratory employees in the main auditorium. He was accompanied by John Browne, LANL Director, Don Cobb, Associate Lab Director (ALD), Threat Reduction; and Tom Meyer, ALD, Strategic and Supporting Research. Bingaman and his staff were briefed on B Division programmatic efforts in the development of threat reduction technologies. Jill Trehwella, B Division Director hosted the group, "We were asked to prepare approximately 30 minutes with him describing the work that B Division is doing in the area of bio-threat reduction, building on our multidisciplinary research capabilities that integrate biology, chemistry and computational science," said Jill. Four scientists made brief presentations to the Senator:

Michael Altherr described the relationship of modern genomic scale studies to understand basic mechanisms in host-pathogen interactions; Cheryl Kuske described how genomic data and pathogen biology can be applied to developing technologies that provide reliable, accurate, and specific identification of pathogens; Jose Olivares then gave examples of how chemistry and engineering are used to build instruments for testing samples in the field, giving as an example some of our work for the UNSCOM mission in Iraq; and Gerry Myers completed the story by describing how Los Alamos' pioneering work in bioinformatics, and LANL's internationally recognized databases are resources for the development of tools to rapidly and precisely identify threat agents and to respond in a crisis. A highlight of the visit for guests was the warm reception they received in the HRL lobby by B Division staff.

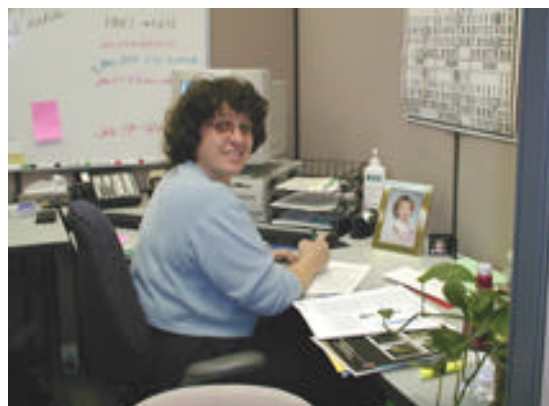
➤ *Contributed by Sandra Zink*

B Heard

Dear Editor,

I wanted to write a letter concerning the recent office move. Specifically, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to the facility management people (especially Scott Downing) for making the move with as little disturbance and hassle as possible. All this in the face of grumbling occupants, unpacked cubicles, and a tight schedule. Scott and his crew handled all the fuss with a smile and hard work and I am sure their efforts did not go unnoticed by the rest of the office tenants. This move was well planned and well executed and all the kudos goes to Scott Downing, Tom Granich, and Aaron Schwartz. While I was one of grumbling occupants when the office furniture plan first came to light because of my fondness for my old oak desk, I have come to like my new furniture and the working space I now live in.

➤ *Tracy Ruscetti*



Tracy in her new digs

B There

B Division Calender and Events

The B Division staff seminar series is on Mondays at 11 AM in the HRL auditorium.

January 31, Rich Okinaka, "Bacillus Anthracis: Virulence Plasmids and Phylogeny"

February 7, Irving Bigio, "Optical Biopsy: Clinical Studies for Breast Cancer and GI Pathologies"

February 14, Robert Donohoe, "Synthetic and Natural Light Harvesting"

The B Division Postdoc Seminar Series Begins

On Wednesday, January 19th, 2000 the B Division Postdoc Seminar Series had its inaugural meeting.

Approximately 35 postdocs, staff members, and others attended this meeting which featured Irving Bigio's informative talk on effective presentation skills. In the upcoming monthly meetings, the seminar series will feature talks by other staff members, postdocs giving job or conference talks, and visitors from academic, industrial or government labs talking about jobs in their fields. If you are interested in being on the mailing list for this seminar series

➤ [Contact Kirk Rector at kdr@lanl.gov](mailto:kdr@lanl.gov).

TECH TIME in TA-35 conference room in Bldg. 2, Room B125 on February 2 at 11:00 A.M.

The Department of Defense Programs Office is seeking job assignments for the 2000 Service Academy Research Associates (SARA) Student Program. Some of the candidates typically have an interest in bioscience or medical assignments. Organizations interested in sponsoring **SARA students** are requested to complete a Student Assignment Request and return it to M. Cecilia Lujan, DoD, by E-mail: cece@lanl.gov, by **Thursday, February 3, 2000**.

➤ [Contact Cecilia Lujan at 5-1913](tel:5052911913)

Sensor Workshop in Santa Fe, Feb. 28-29, 2000. The Sensor Technologies: Needs and Assessment Symposium, organized jointly by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and the Center for Process Analytical Chemistry (CPAC), University of Washington, Seattle, will be held Feb. 28-29, 2000, in Santa Fe, NM. Focus will be on the role of advances in measurement technology for applications in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and food safety.

Interested participants can get more information or register on-line through the web-site:

http://www.lanl.gov/programs/bioscience/Sensor_ws/meeting_contacts.htm.

➤ [Contributed by Basil Swanson \(basil@lanl.gov\)](mailto:basil@lanl.gov).

B Serious!

A Fish Story

Dear Editor:

Given data provided by Tom Yoshida (that an average size sailfish has a burst speed of 67 mph) Jon Longmire calculated that his fly reel would be spinning at 6,000 rpm if he hooked the fish. The flaw in this calculation is that Longmire will never hook a sailfish.

➤ [Larry Hersman](#)



Dream on, Jon

BIOSCIENCES
Innovation for Health and Security



Millie Microbe

says

"*Don't let the little things get to you."

*Quote is a paraphrase adapted from Frank and Earnest by Thaves 11/22/99

➤ [Contributed by Joe D'Anna](#)

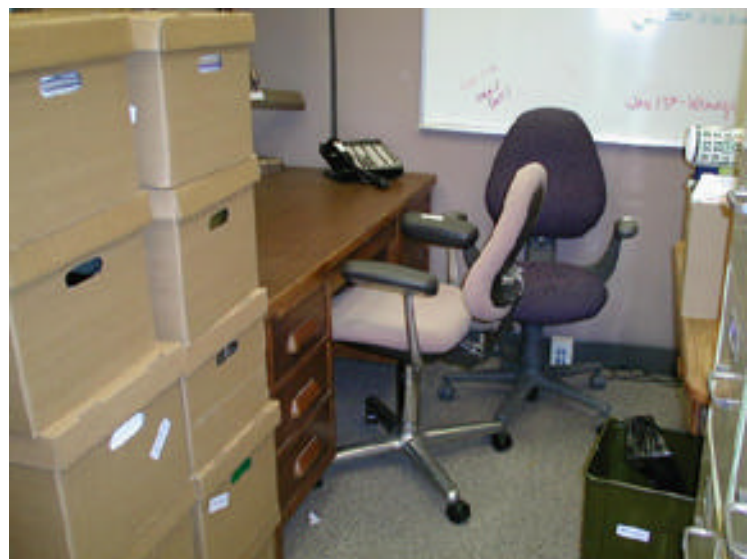
B Scenes

Photos by Annette Archuleta

Senator Bingaman greeted by B Division in HRL lobby



One last look...



B Scene

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